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**RARE NEWS FOR OLD ENGLAND!**

**Beef a Shilling a Pound!**

*A curious Anecdote of the Farmer-General,  
very interesting at this critical Moment.*

**I**T is well known that certain eminent characters in this kingdom place much confidence in the efficacy of a system of *Starvation*.—Consistent with this idea, they first endeavoured to starve America into a counter-revolution, but their philanthropic project unfortunately failed of success; yet great minds are not to be dispirited with trifles. Rendered somewhat wiser by experience, they thought it very probable that the people of France would be less obstinate, and in time be brought to enjoy the blessings of this laudable plan. But, alas! they have found that French *Sans-cullottes*, as well as American *Rebels*, can live for years, and grow fat

41. 11. 6. 269.



fat upon nothing, or, what was very little better, upon bread made of *rotten wood* and *soap lather*, and soup of old hats and shoes\*. Still unwilling that mankind should entirely lose the effects of their benevolent labours, the people of England are designed to be the subject of their present experiment.

Though John Bull generally discovers an astonishing degree of obstinacy and stupidity, yet who knows but a system of *Starvation*, rigorously put in force, like the present, may succeed in producing a revolu——I mean a counter-revolution, in this country. Indeed, it would be a pity that such unremitting exertions as we have lately witnessed should prove abortive, and die unrewarded. Let us rather hope that the authors of these intended blessings will, in due time, become the *exalted* monuments of a nation's gratitude.

Should any unbelieving sceptics doubt that *Starvation* is intended to be "the order of the day," I think myself in duty bound

\* See a daily and impartial account of this fact in the "Times."

to come forward, and support it with the following

**“ Additional Testimony.”**

A few days ago a Butcher offered a fair price for two oxen, the *reputed* property of the *Farmer General*, who being himself near the spot, the hind thought it expedient to ask his illustrious master if he should take the money proposed ; who immediately expressed his opinion in language similar to the following :

“ Aye, boy ! aye,—take that—take that  
 “ trifle !—No, no !—Beef a shilling a pound,  
 “ by and by !—Shilling a pound !—Shilling  
 “ a pound ! boy.—Fetch money then !—  
 “ Good price—good price, then, boy ! ”—  
 What a proof of paternal affection and loving-kindness : it is unnecessary for the pen to comment upon it ; that arduous task will soon, we trust, be entered into by able hands,—by the combined abilities of an awakened nation.

Suffice

Suffice it to say, that the above anecdote agrees so well with the uniform conduct of the person it alludes to, that any evidence of its authenticity would be superfluous. Were such evidence necessary, the writer of this paper could refer to witnesses of undoubted veracity, and whose prejudices (setting aside principle) would operate infallibly against the circulation of such a report, if false.